

Message Text

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42 S

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 SS-15 SAM-01 SP-02 INR-07 IO-11

PM-04 DODE-00 NSC-05 CIAE-00 /058 W

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R 021240Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9403

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

USLO PEKING

USUN NEW YORK 1615

COMUSMACTHAI BANGKOK

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 4762

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UN KS JA TH

SUBJECT: THAI AVIATION DETACHMENT TO BE WITHDRAWN FROM JAPAN

REF: A) STATE 29167 B) USUN 198 C) 75 SEOUL 9289 (12/3/75)

D) 75 SEOUL 7299 (9/18/75)

SUMMARY: THE RTG HAS DECIDED TO WITHDRAW ITS UN COMMAND
AVIATION DETACHMENT FROM JAPAN IN APRIL. END SUMMARY

1. THE ACTING DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL
ORGANIZATION DEPARTMENT ASA BUNYAPRATUANG, ASKED TO SEE
DCM MARCH 2 TO INFORM US THAT THE RTG HAS DECIDED TO WITHDRAW
FROM JAPAN THE AVIATION DETACHMENT ATTACHED TO THE UNITED
NATIONS COMMAND. THE WITHDRAWAL IS TO TAKE PLACE IN APRIL.
THE MFA WILL BE INFORMING THE KOREAN AND JAPANESE AMBASSADORS
MARCH 3.

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2. THE DCM RESPONDED THAT WE WOULD REPORT THIS NEWS TO WASHINGTON. HE NOTED THAT THIS WITHDRAWAL WOULD ADVERSELY AFFECT THE UN/JAPAN SOFA AND SAID IT SEEMED UNWISE TO TAMPER WITH UN ARRANGEMENTS AND ELEMENTS CONCERNING KOREA AT THIS TIME. ASA REITERATED THAT THE DECISION TO REMOVE THE AIR UNIT HAD ALREADY BEEN TAKEN. THE DCM SOUGHT CONFIRMATION THAT THAT THIS WITHDRAWAL CONCERNED ONLY THE AVIATION DETACHMENT AND NOT THE UNC REAR LIAISON DETACHMENT AT CAMP ZAMA (AS OF SEPTEMBER 75--PER REF D). ASA, WHO WAS PLAINLY ONLY A MESSENGER IN THIS TRANSACTION, PLEADED IGNORANCE OF THE VARIOUS ELEMENTS COMPRISING THE THAI UNC CONTINGENT BUT DID REITERATE THAT TO THE BEST OF HIS KNOWLEDGE ONLY THE AIR UNIT WAS AFFECTED.

3. DRAWING ON MATERIAL IN REF C, THE DCM MENTIONED HOW PLEASED WE WERE THAT FOREIGN MINISTER CHATCHAI HAD REAFFIRMED DURING HIS EARLY DECEMBER VISIT TO SEOUL THAT THE THAI CONTINGENT IN KOREA WOULD REMAIN THERE UNTIL THE FINAL DISSOLUTION OF THE UN COMMAND. HE REITERATED HOW IMPORTANT WE FEEL IT IS FOR THE THAI TO REMAIN IN PLACE UNTIL THE END OF THE UNC.

4. COMMENT. WE INFER THAT THIS RTG DECISION IS A FAIT ACCOMPLI. WHEN ASKED, ASA WAS UNINFORMATIVE--AND PROBABLY UNINFORMED--AS TO THE GENESIS OF AND REASONS FOR THIS DECISION. WE HAVE ALERTED THE KOREAN EMBASSY SO THEY WILL BE PREPARED WHEN SUMMONED BY THE FOREIGN MINISTRY.
WHITEHOUSE

NOTE BY OC/T: DISTRIBUTION COORDINATED WITH S/S-O - MR. MACFARLANE.

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